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AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 15, 2010

## SENATE BILL

**No. 1440**

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### **Introduced by Senator Padilla**

#### **(Principal coauthor: Senator Romero)**

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Beall, *Blakeslee*, and Fong)

**(Coauthors: Senators Ashburn, Cedillo, Correa, Cox, Emmerson, Hancock, Huff, Liu, Lowenthal, Negrete McLeod, Pavley, Price, Strickland, and Wyland)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Arambula, Block, Bradford, Brownley, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Davis, Evans, Furutani, Gaines, Hall, Huber, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Monning, Nielsen, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Ruskin, Silva, Smyth, Swanson, and Torlakson)

February 19, 2010

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An act to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 66745) to Chapter 9.2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1440, as amended, Padilla. California Community Colleges: student transfer.

Existing law establishes the 3 segments of public postsecondary education in this state. These segments include the California State

University, the campuses of which are administered by the Trustees of the California State University, the University of California, which is administered by the Regents of the University of California, and the California Community Colleges, which are administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes them to provide instruction to students at community college campuses.

Existing law, known as the Donahoe Higher Education Act, authorizes the community colleges to grant associate in arts and associate in science degrees. The act also requires the regents, the trustees, and the board of governors to have as a fundamental policy the maintenance of a healthy and expanded program to increase the number of transfer students from community colleges.

This bill would enact the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act, ~~which would require a community college district, commencing with the fall term of the 2011–12 academic year, to grant an associate degree for transfer to a student in his or her field of study that would deem the student, commencing with the 2011–12 academic year, would require a student that receives an associate degree for transfer to be deemed~~ eligible for transfer into a California State University baccalaureate program when the student meets prescribed requirements. *The bill would condition a community college district's receipt of state apportionment funds on its development and granting of associate degrees for transfer.* This bill would prohibit a community college district from imposing any requirements, in addition to these requirements, for a student to be eligible for the associate degree for transfer, and would prohibit remedial noncollegiate level coursework from being counted towards the units required for the associate degree for transfer.

This bill would require the California State University to guarantee admission with junior status to any community college student who meets the requirements for the associate degree for transfer. This bill would not guarantee a student admission for specified majors or campuses, but would require the California State University to grant a student priority admission to a program or major that is similar to his or her community college major or area of emphasis, as determined by the California State University campus to which the student is admitted. This bill would authorize the California State University to require a transferring student to take additional coursework at the California State University in specified circumstances, and would prohibit the California

State University from requiring a transferring student to repeat courses that are similar to those taken at the community college that counted towards the units required for the associate degree for transfer.

This bill would also require the Legislative Analyst's Office to review and report to specified legislative committees and subcommittees, within a prescribed time period, on specified outcomes and recommendations related to this act.

By requiring a community college district to grant the associate degree for transfer *in exchange for receipt of state apportionment funds*, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Since the enactment of the Master Plan for Higher Education
- 4 in 1960, preparing students to transfer to a four-year university
- 5 has been a core function of the California Community Colleges.
- 6 (b) Successful progression from lower division coursework to
- 7 degree completion is a basic principle of California higher
- 8 education and is critical to the future of the state's economy.
- 9 (c) Currently, the coursework necessary to transfer to a campus
- 10 of the California State University or the University of California
- 11 differs from the coursework needed to earn an associate degree.
- 12 As a result, many transfer students leave the community college
- 13 system having completed transfer requirements, but are unable to
- 14 participate in community college graduation ceremonies, do not
- 15 have a degree to show for their work, and are ineligible for some
- 16 awards and scholarships because they did not fulfill current
- 17 requirements for an associate degree.

(d) Today, one in every four jobs requires an associate degree or higher. In the near future, one in every three jobs will require an associate degree or higher.

(e) The Public Policy Institute of California projects that California will have one million fewer graduates than it needs in 2025, and that increasing transfer rates from community colleges to four-year institutions would dramatically reduce the education skills gap.

(f) The community college system allows the state to address the serious projected shortage of educated workers.

(g) To meet workforce demands in a cost-effective way, incentivizing students to earn an associate degree while preparing for transfer to a four-year college or university, and recognizing that they have completed a transfer preparation course pattern, provides students encouragement and support to complete their overall educational pursuits.

SEC. 2. Article 3 (commencing with Section 66745) is added to Chapter 9.2 of Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 3. Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act

66745. This article shall be known, and may be cited as the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act.

66746. (a) Commencing with the fall term of the 2011–12 academic year, ~~a community college district shall grant an associate degree for transfer to a student in fields of study that shall deem the student~~ *student that earns an associate degree for transfer granted pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be deemed* eligible for transfer into a California State University baccalaureate program when the student meets both of the following requirements:

(1) Completion of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units that are eligible for transfer to the California State University, including both of the following:

(A) The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education-Breadth Requirements.

(B) A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in a major or area of emphasis, as determined by the community college district.

1 (2) Obtainment of a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

2 (b) *As a condition of receipt of state apportionment funds, a*  
3 *community college district shall develop and grant associate*  
4 *degrees for transfer that meet the requirements of subdivision (a).*

5 A community college district shall not impose any requirements  
6 in addition to the requirements of this section, including any local  
7 college or district requirements, for a student to be eligible for the  
8 associate degree for transfer and subsequent admission to the  
9 California State University pursuant to Section 66747.

10 (c) ~~In the development of an associate degree for transfer, a A~~  
11 ~~community college district is encouraged to consider the local~~  
12 ~~articulation agreements and other work between the respective~~  
13 ~~faculties from the affected community college and California State~~  
14 ~~University campuses to clarify pathways for students in~~  
15 ~~implementing the requirements of this section.~~

16 (d) Community colleges are encouraged to facilitate the  
17 acceptance of credits *earned* at other community colleges toward  
18 the associate degree for transfer pursuant to this section.

19 (e) This section shall not preclude students who are assessed  
20 below collegiate level from acquiring remedial noncollegiate level  
21 coursework in preparation for obtaining the associate degree.  
22 Remedial noncollegiate level coursework shall not be counted as  
23 part of the transferable units required pursuant to paragraph (1) of  
24 subdivision (a).

25 66747. Notwithstanding Chapter 4 (commencing with Section  
26 66201), the California State University shall guarantee admission  
27 with junior status to any community college student who meets  
28 all of the requirements of Section 66746. Admission to the  
29 California State University, as provided under this article, does  
30 not guarantee admission for specific majors or campuses.  
31 Notwithstanding Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 66201),  
32 the California State University shall grant a student priority  
33 admission to a program or major that is similar to his or her  
34 community college major or area of emphasis, as determined by  
35 the California State University campus to which the student is  
36 admitted. A student admitted under this article shall receive priority  
37 over all other community college transfer students, excluding  
38 community college students who have entered into a transfer  
39 agreement between a community college and the California State

University prior to the fall term of the ~~2011-12~~ 2012-13 academic year.

66748. (a) The California State University may require a student transferring pursuant to this article to take additional courses at the California State University so long as the student is not required to take any more than 60 additional semester units or 90 quarter units at the California State University for majors requiring 120 semester units or 180 quarter units. Specified high unit majors shall be exempt from this subdivision upon agreement by the Chancellors of the California State University and the California Community Colleges and their respective academic senates.

(b) Community college transfer units shall not be applicable to upper division requirements at the California State University, *unless agreed upon by the local Academic Senates of the California State University and the California Community Colleges and the transferred units do not exceed the required 60 semester units or 90 quarter units required pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 66746.*

(c) The California State University shall not require students transferring pursuant to this article to repeat courses that are similar to those taken at the community college that counted toward the associate degree for transfer granted pursuant to Section 66746.

66749. (a) The Legislative Analyst's Office shall review and report to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education, the Senate Committee on Education, and the respective education finance budget subcommittees of the Assembly and the Senate in the spring of 2012, an update on the implementation of this article.

(b) The Legislative Analyst's Office shall also review and report to the Assembly Committee on Higher Education, the Senate Committee on Education, and the respective education finance budget subcommittees of the Assembly and the Senate, within four years of implementation of this article, on both of the following:

(1) The outcomes of implementation of this article, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(A) Transfer rates of students granted associate degrees for transfer, as compared to all other community college transfer students.

(B) The average amount of time and units it takes a student to earn an associate degree for transfer pursuant to this article and a

1 subsequent baccalaureate degree, as compared to the average  
2 amount of time and units to degree prior to enactment of this article  
3 and compared to students using other transfer processes available.

4 (C) Student progression and completion rates.

5 (D) Other relevant indicators of student success.

6 (E) The degree to which the requirements for an associate degree  
7 for transfer take into account existing articulation agreements and  
8 the degree to which community colleges facilitate the acceptance  
9 of credits between community college districts, as outlined in  
10 subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 66746.

11 (F) It is the intent of the Legislature that student outcome data  
12 provided under this subdivision include the degree to which the  
13 California State University was able to accommodate students  
14 admitted under this article to the campus and major of their first  
15 choice.

16 (2) Recommendations for statutory changes necessary to  
17 facilitate the goal of a clear and transparent transfer process,  
18 including whether this article should be made applicable to students  
19 transferring from community colleges to the University of  
20 California.

21 *SEC. 3. It is the intent of the Legislature that the requirements*  
22 *placed on community college districts pursuant to this act shall*  
23 *be carried out in the normal course of program development and*  
24 *approval, course scheduling, and degree issuance and shall not*  
25 *represent any new activities or a higher level of service on the part*  
26 *of community college districts.*

27 ~~SEC. 3.~~

28 *SEC. 4.* If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
29 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
30 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
31 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
32 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.